(c) Goverment have noted these developments.

Compensation paid to Immigrants Abroad

1095. SHRI S. AUSTIN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of immigrant workers who met with accidents while on duty abroad and were paid compensation during each of the last three years, country-wise;

(b) the number of cases that are pending with Goverment during this period, country-wise; and

(c) the steps being taken by Goverment in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be placed on the table of the House.

(c) Indian Missions have standing instructions to liaise with host governments to assist Indian nationals in having their compensation claims settled without delay in case of any difficulty. All such cases are not, however, reported to the Indian Mission concerned. Whenever Mission is asked for assistance in case of delay or denial of compensation to an Indian national, the mission takes the matter up with the concerned authorities of the host government or the employer for resolution of the problem.

Statement Given by Pakistan PM to CNN

1096. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the Pakistan Prime Minister's statement to the CNN on June 3, 1993 after taking over the assignment, following the Pak-Supreme Court's judgement proposing to give up arms race with India and to come to a negotiated settlement on Kashmir issue expeditiously;

(b) if so, whether any official communication on move has been made by Pak Government on these lines; and

(c) what is the Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) : (a) Government have seen media reports regarding former Pakistan Prime Minister Mr. Nawaz Sharif's interview to the CNN in which he, *inter alia*, stated India and Pakistan should resolve their outstanding issues.

(b) In response to a goodwill message sent by Prime Minister on May 27, 1993 addressed to the former Pakistan Prime Minister Mr. Nawaz Sharif, he sent a message which, *inter alia*, stated that India and Pakistan could make a fresh beginning to resolve the bilateral issues.

(c) Government remains committed to resolving all outstanding issues with Pakistan peacefully through bilateral dialogue. However, meaningful discussions can only be held once a climate is created which is conducive to promoting mutual trust and confidence. For this Pakistan must stop its support to subversion and terrorism directed against India.

Attack on Iraq by United States of America

1097. SHRI G. G. SWELL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether following the United States rocket attack on the intelligence headquarters of Iraq at Baghdad he issued a statement approving the attack but urged on non-violation of a country's sovereignty;

(b) whether he considers a military attack within the territory of a country is not an attack on its sovereignty; and

(c) whether from his own sources he was convinced that Iraq did plan the failed assassination of the former US President; George Bush during his visit to Kuwait ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA) : (a) and (b) The statement did not approve of the attack. It expressed concern about violation of sovereignty and adverse effects on peace and stability in West Asia. It sympathised with the people of Iraq. The statement issued by the official spokesman is annexed. (*see* below)

(c) The Government has no access to any independent information in this connection.